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Historic and Archaeological Resources

History of the Town of Lamoine
By the Lamoine Historical Society

[Insert History]

Historic Archaeological Resources in Lamoine

The Lamoine Historical Society aims to collect and preserve items of historical interest and, insofar as possible without damage to the item, to make them available to aid the public in research on Lamoine's history.

The Lamoine Historical Society owns the old church at 362 Lamoine Beach Road, near Coyne Field and the East Lamoine Cemetery. This church is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as "First Baptist Church" (but is not listed at all on the State Data compilation of such buildings in Lamoine). Most of the objects, as opposed to documents, which LHS owns are stored there. It is also used for occasional events. The Historical Society has moved it to a new foundation and repaired the roof, but it does not have running water or any climate control, which limits its uses.

In addition the Lamoine Historical Society maintains an archive of documents, maps, photographs and other materials, currently stored in donated basement space, with more than 30 named collections, organized by donor or subject matter. Finding Aids (organized of lists of collection contents) have been written for 12 of these. Developing finding aids for the remaining collections is an on-going project.

Included in the collection is the "House Book" of Arthur Reynolds, a compilation of information and stories about Lamoine houses, and three notebooks of photographs of Lamoine houses by Lamoine pastor Neal Bousfield. Both date from the 1930's. There are also two books on Lamoine, each dating from the 1880's: Lamoine, A Place of Summer Sojourning, and Fountain Laval. Both include photographs and text and were published as promotional material for planned developments in Lamoine.

The Lamoine Historical Society meets only in the good weather months, and generally presents three well-attended programs on Lamoine History each summer and works with the Lamoine School when requested. The group is highly motivated to find more appropriate permanent storage and display space for its documents and collections. Other ambitions include making collections more accessible, converting a cassette tape tour of historic buildings in Lamoine into CD format, and siting plaques for historic sites and buildings in Lamoine.

Archaeological Sites in Lamoine

Prehistoric archaeological sites: The Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC) lists seven archaeological sites, all shell middens in the coastal zone. Most of the shoreline in Lamoine is considered sensitive for Native American archaeology.

Historic archaeological sites: The MHPC also has identified seven historic archaeological sites. Two are wrecks of ships, two are a mill and dike on Mud Creek, one is the coaling station at the Lamoine State Park. The others are St. Sauveur's Mission, dating from the summer of 1613, and the other is Madame Leval's colony, a settlement from around 1790, the precise locations of which are apparently unknown (some sources locate St. Sauveur's Mission on MDI).

The MHPC recommends:

Future archaeological survey should focus on the identification of potentially significant resources associated with the town's agricultural, residential and industrial heritage, particularly those associated with the earliest Euro-American settlement of the town in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Historic buildings and structures:

There are currently two structures in Lamoine on the National Register of Historic Places. One is the old church, owned by the Lamoine Historical Society which is often omitted from lists of Lamoine places because it is catalogued under "East Lamoine," which is not and never has been a town.

The other is Shore Acres on Lamoine Beach Road [include a couple of sentences about Shore Acres.]

The MHPC notes that there are several other buildings which may be eligible for this designation:

- A two-story Federal style brick house on the Douglas Highway;

- A Mansard-roofed house on the Shore Road;
- A Greek Revival style house on the Shore Road;
- A Greek Revival style brick cape on the Shore Road;
- A Federal style cape on the Shore Road; and
- A Federal Style Cape at the corner of Douglas Highway and the Shore Road.

Lamoine's codes protect sensitive sites by:

[include specific characterizations and references to Lamoine codes]